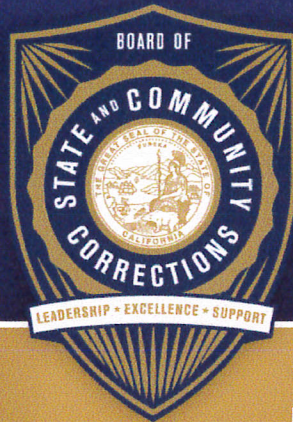


Juvenile Justice Data Development Needs in California



Board Update
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Coverage- developing an adequate juvenile justice data system in California—

- ☐ **Why is it important to collect juvenile justice data?**
- ☐ **What is the current status of juvenile justice data?**
- ☐ **What types of JJ data should we be collecting?**
- ☐ **How should we collect it?**
- ☐ **What is the BSCC's role in juvenile justice data collection—both now and moving forward?**



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- At a basic level, **we should know** how many youth are entering the juvenile justice system and what is happening with them
- **Additionally, consistent and accurate data are powerful because they can:**
 - Measure trends over time
 - Measure the impact of initiatives over time (e.g., Youthful Offender Block Grant, JJCPA, and realignment generally)
 - Measure the effectiveness of juvenile justice policy and funding decisions
 - Improve workload for probation officers—efficient and effective data collection eliminates duplication and helps probation officers be effective in their practice

```

graph TD
    County[County] --> CourtData[Court Data]
    County --> ProbationData[Probation Data]
    State[State] --> CDCR[CDCR Department of Juvenile Justice Data]
    State --> JCPSS[Juvenile Court & Probation Statistical System JCPSS]
    State --> JJPSA[JJPSA, YOBG, and Detention Profile Survey Requirements]
    ProbationData --> JCPSS
    
```

Sometimes court and probation data systems are collected

County

Court Data

Probation Data
County based system
Some automated; some are not automated

State

CDCR Department of Juvenile Justice Data

Juvenile Court & Probation Statistical System (JCPSS)

JJPSA, YOBG, and Detention Profile Survey Requirements

Data uploaded from County to State in separate processes

Why is the current state of juvenile justice data collection not working?

- ☒ **Fractured agency collection and reporting**
- ☒ **Absence of and/or antiquated software and methodology**

In turn, these problems result in:

- ☒ **Poor data quality—consistency and accuracy questionable**
- ☒ **An absence of meaningful measures (e.g., recidivism)**
- ☒ **Little use in showing trends/evaluating outcomes**
- ☒ **Data known more for their limitations than their usefulness**

Yet:

- ☒ *Data reforms abound on the adult realignment side, but there are no comparable investments or activities on the juvenile justice side*



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What types of data should we be collecting?

- ☐ **Basic System Data: Simple counts that measure the number of youth entering the JJS and what happens to them**
 - o Measures the system as comprehensive and connected
 - o Connects data currently collected in separate processes
- ☐ **Key Outcome Data: Measures of progress for system-involved youth over time—quality over quantity!**
 - o Recidivism as a first requirement, but we should not overlook other key outcomes such as education, placement, employment
 - o Measured using clear definitions and standard criteria
- ☐ **Effectiveness Data: As data systems contribute to practice and policy, it can eventually be used to assess system/program effectiveness**



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Building a Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Data System

Step 1

Basic System Data

For example:

- # youth/demographics*
- # detained*
- # adjudicated*

Step 2

Key Outcomes

For example:

- School enrollment*
- Connection to mental health services*
- Recidivism*

Step 3

System/ Program Effectiveness

For example:

- Treatment and control groups to determine whether a particular program is effective*



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How should we collect juvenile justice data?

- ❑ **To effectively collect juvenile justice data, California needs:**
 - A standardized, connected platform used throughout the state
 - A consistent process by which to oversee and disseminate the data on a regular basis
- ❑ **Other states provide excellent examples:**
 - The Georgia Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse
 - The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
 - The Washington State Institute of Public Policy
- ❑ **Previous & current studies underscore the need for progress**
 - The 2009 Juvenile Justice Commission Master Plan
 - Lessons from adult realignment: the 2014 PPIC report
 - The Los Angeles County Probation Data Project



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What is BSCC's role in juvenile justice data?

- ❑ **Broad data development mandate in the Penal Code sections defining BSCC mission, role and responsibilities**
- ❑ **Multiple data projects underway for adult realignment, but BSCC juvenile justice data role is less defined:**
 - ✓ Detention Profile Survey
 - ✓ YOBG and JJCPA reports
- ❑ **More active BSCC juvenile justice data role urged by:**
 - ✓ Juvenile Justice Standing Committee
 - ✓ State Audit Bureau



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Proposed Juvenile Justice Data Working Group

- ❑ Budget proposal would convene a **Juvenile Justice Data Working Group under BSCC leadership** of state agencies, local practitioners, stakeholders & experts to:
 - Identify juvenile justice data gaps & development needs
 - Identify appropriate roles of state and local agencies in collection and reporting
 - Identify system software and hardware needs
 - Discuss/ recommend performance measures that will address capabilities and needs of all stakeholders
 - Produce an implementation and cost plan for improvement
- ❑ Plan would include recommendations for a **central state website** making more transparent system information available to stakeholders & public
- ❑ Proposal would include **resources for BSCC staffing** to support the Working Group



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